

RECKLESS RALPH'S

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

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THE BOYS OF NEW YORK

by G. H. Cordier

It gives the writer much pleasure to write on a subject very dear to his heart. The glamorous, thrilling, colorful, dare devil Boys of New York.

of that fascinating paper, and every week, on the day it was due his Uncle would say to the writer, "Now George run down to the newsstand, and get me a package of tobacco, and The Boys of New York," and during the long years that have passed since that



The paper par excellence for the youth of America in its day; and still living in the hearts and memories of the older generation who read its pages in the far off days of the past. When the writer was a very little boy he had an Uncle, a young man at the time, who was an ardent admirer

time, the writer has always remembered his Uncle — to whom he was deeply attached — and his wish to the writer to get him his package of tobacco and the Boys of New York. And how the writer hastened to satisfy his wish, well knowing that as soon as he had read the paper he would give it to the writer who would

linger over it for hours, thrilled and delighted by the wonderful illustrations. It was on the August 23, 1875 that the Boys of New York made its first appearance on the newsstands. And from that date till its last number on October 13, 1894, one thousand numbers, it was the favorite paper of the youth of the nation, and was read by rich and poor, high and low, who devoured its gripping romances and were thrilled and excited by its powerful illustrations. The writer still distinctly remembers his looking into the newsdealers window, and seeing the Boys of New York on display. The first story he remembers seeing was the famous Frank Reades Steam Man of the Praries, and The Demon of the Deep, with its sequel The Island of Mystery. The writer is the happy owner of 188 numbers, and ever so often he takes out his stack of the paper, and spends an hour or two just looking at the wonderful illustrations, of which he never tires. It occurred to the writer that he could, to a certain extent, share his enjoyment with members of the Brotherhood by making a list and giving some account of some of the intensely interesting romances that embellish the pages of that fascinating Journal. The lists he will give are of numbers in his possession either in the Wide Awake Library, Pluck and Luck or in the numbers of The Boys of New York in the writers collection. The Wide Awake and Pluck And Luck being stories republished from the Boys of New York. The very early numbers of the paper had many stories taken from English publications mainly from the Hogarth House novels. Also the illustrations of the first numbers were of a very crude type, but still they had an interest that was all their own. The writer will now try and give from their titles some idea of the stories republished in Wide Awake Library. And in the other libraries.

King of Diamonds.
Hunchback of Old St. Pauls.
Headman of Old London Bridge.
Blue Cap, Australian Bushranger.
Shorty; or Kicked Into Good Luck (comic)
Tomey Bounce (comic)
Pirates of America.
Devils Diamond.
Mysterious Messenger; or, the Secret of the Three Black Stars.

Satans Tree; or, Kings of the Broad Palm.
The Boy Clown; or, Star of Pantomine
Three Yankee Chums.
The Sea Fiends; or, Under the Ocean
The Wharf Boys of New York.
Ferret, The Little Detective.
Jack Hawley The Inventor.
The Red Circle
Thirteen; or, Brotherhood of Death.
Double Six; or, Dominoes of Death.
The Twelve Owls; or Secret Band of Chicago.
Meta, The Girl Crusoe.
A Trip to the Center of the Earth.
The Prairie Witch; or, Hunters of the Silver Trail.
Captain Tom Drake.
The Shortys Farming (comic)
The Sealed Door; or, Oldest House in New York.
Monitor of the Air (Frank Reade)
Electric Ice Boat (Frank Reade)
The Mark of Mystery.
Weird House of White Cliff.
Spectre of the Pueblo.
Chased Around the World.

N. Y. Detective Library:

Ned Kelly and his Bushman. (A fine story of the Australian bandit who wore a complete suit of armor)
The Black Ring.
The Ring of Steel.
Nex—The Boy without a Mind.
Old King Bradys Triumph.
A Misers Millions; or, Old King Brady and the Mystery of the Laden Trunk
Old Ferret Defied; or the League of Skulls

The following stories were republished in **Pluck and Luck**:

The Ghosts of Blackcliff Hall. A splendid story of a secret criminal brotherhood who masqueraded as ghosts.
The Island King.
Across the Continent in the Air.
The Magic Mountain.
Robinson Crusoe Junior.
The Iron Spirit. A fine story of a man demented by wrongs done him assumes the character of a knight in armor and haunts those who have injured him.
Five Years in the Grassy Sea.
The Mysterious Cave.
The Road House.
The Little Captain; or, Island of Gold
The Little Demon; or, Plotting Against the Czar.
The Haunted Mansion.
The Haunted Lake.
The Island of Fire.

The Haunted Belfry; or, Mystery of the Old Church Tower.
 The House With Three Windows.
 3000 Years Old; or, The Lost Gold Mine of the Hatchipe Hills.
 "T" A Story of Strange Adventure.
 The Haunted House On the Hudson.
 The Maniac Engineer.
 The Haunted House on the Harlem.
 Dead For Five Years.
 The Twenty Doctors; or, the Mystery of the Coast.
 The Gray House on the Rock; or, The Ghosts of Ballentine Hall. A fine story of Civil War days.
 Billy Button, The Young Clown and Bareback Rider. A grand story of the Circus.
 The Floating Treasure; or, The Pirates Rock.
 The Skeleton Scout.
 Nazoma.
 Seven Diamond Skulls; or, the Secret City of Slam.
 Jack The Juggler; or, A Boys Hunt for his Sister.
 Lost On A Raft; or, Driven from Sea to Sea.
 Castaway Castle; or, The Home of the Lost Explorers.
 Among the Sun Worshipers.
 Lost In the Great Basin; or, The Wonderful Underground City.
 The Seven Tigers; or, All for Love and Glory.
 Monte Christo, Junior.
 The Phantom Fireman.
 The Island In The Air.
 The Phantom City.
 The following are some of the stories in the 188 numbers of The Boys of New York in the writers collection.
 On A Sinking Island.
 In The Sea of Ice.
 Capt. of the Red Stockings.
 Larry The Life Saver.
 Frank Reade and His Airship in Africa.
 Frank Reade Across the Continent on Wings.
 Frank Reade In the Far West or Lost Gold Mine.
 Frank Reade Queen Clipper of Clouds
 Frank Reade Electric Ice Boat.
 Frank Reade Electric Cyclone.
 Sam Spray (comic)
 Old Keen of the Secret Service.
 The Young Monte Christo.
 The Waifs of New York.
 Smart And Co. (comic)
 Old King Brady And Red Leather Boy
 Old King Brady XXX East River Mystery.

Old King Brady, Messenger Boy Who Found a Million..
 Old King Brady, Haunted Churchyard
 Old King Brady 99-99 Street; or, The House Without A Door. Being the story of Old King Bradys First Case
 Old King Brady Mystery of Car 206; or, Man of Gold.
 Handsome Harry of The Fighting Belvedere
 Old King Brady On the Night of the 9th; or, the Man Who Was Never Seen.
 Alone In New York.
 On a Sinking Island.
 The Shorties Minstrels (comic)
 Lost At The South Pole.
 Monte Christo Jr.
 The Cavern of Fire.
 On The Plains With Buffalo Bill.
 Capt. Kidd Junior.
 Afloat With Capt. Nems.
 The Blockhouse Boys.
 Fighting With Washington.
 The Deacons Boy. (comic)
 Two Boys Trip to an Unknown Planet
 The Bowery Prince.
 Frank Reades Electric Coach; or, Hunting for the Isle of Damonds.
 The Shorties On The Road (comic)
 The Floating Gold Mine.
 Resolute No. 10; or, The Fire Boys of Belton.
 The Phantom Brig.
 The Twenty Gray Wolves; or, Fighting a King.
 A Monte Christo at 18.
 The Palace of Gold; or, The Secret of a Lost Race.
 The Hidden House; or, The Mystery of The Midnight Bell.
 Orphans of New York.
 The Lost City of the Andes.
 Still Alarm Sam.
 At Midnight on the 11th; or, Old King Brady and the Mystery of the Pier A.
 Nameless Nat.
 The Exile of the Lost Land.
 Lost on a Raft.
 The Sea Tigers; or, The Avengers of the Coast.
 Afloat In a Volcano.
 Whirlwind Jack.
 The Boy Captain of the 71 New York.
 The Man in the Dungeon.
 Ferret and Ferret, Detectives.
 The Blue Mask; or, Fighting Against the Czar.
 Nazoma.
 Wide Awake Will of Engine 13.
 Adrift on a Sea of Grass.
 Kit Carson Junior.

An Engineer at 16.

In the Ice.

On the Night of the 9th; or, The Man Who Was Never Seen.

Our Willie; or, The Last of the Fitzherbits (comic)

Shines; or, A New York Bootblack.

The last four stories were the last that appeared in the Boys of New York before it was changed to "Happy Days." Trusting that this article has given some amusement and instruction to the members of the Brotherhood, the writer will now close with best wishes to all.

NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings

The daughter of Wm. M. Burns, of Rockland, Maine, was named after June Arlington in Tip Top Weekly, so now it's June Arlington Burns. A very pretty name.

William Cody Leithead was named after William (Buffalo Bill) Cody of far west and nickel novel fame. He is the only son of J. Edward Leithead of Philadelphia, Pa.

Jules Verne's last story was published in the Evening Telegraph, Phila. Pa., at 25c the copy, and come out in 1876. It was "The Mysterious Island."

Street & Smith, novel publishers in New York City, have discontinued the book department of their company. No more books on Nick Carter, Buffalo Bill, Algernon, Ted Strong, Merriwells, or any others. All gone.

The Amalgamated Press in England is only issuing one weekly paper for boys "The Champion," but lots of "Comics." Thomsen's Publishing Co., of England, still have four different titles, such as "Rover," "Adventure," "Hotspur," and another one, but they are issued only once every two weeks now.

Bill (Wm. H.) Gander just landed Vol. 1 of the Boys of England. Sure a scarce volume, and worthy of any ones collection.

If you want to read an interesting story, get "Official Detective Stories Mag., for May 1943, on page 26 is a true story that Chas. H. Johnston—Twin Lake, Mich., was connected with. (Bro. Johnston is member No. 105)

D. D. Anderson says he used to buy the Wide Awake Weekly (the fire stories) and take them to school and hide them in the big Geography and

read them during classes. Was caught more than once and was held up as the horrible example to the rest of the class and had to stand in the corner. Once the teacher tore up some of them, and there was the devil to pay when his mother heard about it. She raised the roof round the place, and the teacher finally got some replacements for the ones she destroyed. D. D. used to sell papers and run errands to get them, and they represented quite an effort and investment. D. D. wishes he had them all now. He believes he had nearly if not the complete set at one time. But it disappeared somehow. D. D. remembers the first copy of Wide Awake fire stories, and they came out for about 3 or 4 years and then disappeared. Some how, the movies don't seem to entirely replace them.

George French just landed No. 1 of Pluck and Luck, the lucky guy. He must have discovered "Treasure Island." What a find.

J. P. Guinon of Little Rock, Ark., says the package I sent him looked like it had been drug behind the train all the way from Massachusetts. It must have been opened a couple of times and they didn't bother about tying it up again very securely. One end of the box had been torn out completely and all that was keeping the novels in there was the string, although as far as he could determine they were not hurt any. But it sure was a miracle they weren't. I guess we'll just have to blame it on the war.

Bro. D. D. Anderson says his collection of Fire Memorabilia has been steadily increasing all the time, and now he doesn't know exactly what he has, until he has a chance to go over 'em. He says he hasn't much time to answer all the nice letters he receives, and the packages are piling up. He'll have to take a week's vacation, so as to go over what he already has.

Bill Burn's had an accident happen to his middle finger on the right hand, and can not write, seem's he lost the end of it. Accidents will happen, you know.

George Barton has had some pretty tough luck too. He lost his best friend, his wife August 7th. They had been married for 41 years and 3 months. He's known her for over 50 years. He says something very sweet and dear has been taken from his life. We all

send our sincerest sympathy to you, George.

George Barton says (continued from last month) my next papers start with No. 145. Old Series, dated March 27th, 1891, being No. 27. Vol 3, New Series, the title being changed to the Best for Boys, "Ching Ching's Own." Starts off with "Dick Strongbow, the Diamond King," "The Silent Hunter," "Daring Dave or Treasures of the Deep," No. 32. "Will Waif or A Boy in a Thousand," No. 34. "Haunted, A Story of New England." No. 36 "Bob Bartlett's Camp," No. 38 began "Jack Lionheart," "Outcast and Hero," No. 43 started "Jim Hardiboy or Chums and Chappies," another of E. H. Burrage's wonderful school stories. No. 49 commenced "Doomed to Dishonor" and "Saved by Valour," No. 54 "Go Ahead Sam; or Never Daunted." Other stories which followed "Who Shall be Captain? or The Football Rivals," "Generous Jack and his Friend," "Sam Stark, A Story of Magic and Mystery," "Danger Ahead; or Dick Strongbow's Last Journey," "The Mutiny of the Lapuring," "Ching Ching on the Trail, A New Kind of a Detective Story," "Jack Hilliers Schooldays," "Lost in Slave Land, or Adventures in South Africa," "Tracked by a Hidden Trail, or the Rogue and the Fool." The title changed again with No. 219. Old series to The Best for MERRY BOYS, Ching Ching's Own. Merry Boys being the main title. Started off with "The Young Captain, and the Seven Pirates of the Pacific," "The Bandits of the Balkans, A Strange Story of a Strange Land," "Who Killed John Moreland? or, A Mystery of Mysteries," "Tom Terrybell, the Leader of Langton School," "Under the Red Flag in the Caribbean Sea," "The Strange Adventures of Bobby Green, Amateur Detective," "The League of Mystery, or the Foes of the House of Danton."

The paper ran a total of 261 numbers and then became merged with a new journal entitled "Bits for Boys." As I understand it, E. H. Burrage would not tolerate interference with his editorial methods by his publishers and left them flat. That his ideas and not theirs were correct is shown by the fact that the newspaper lasted only a short time. E. H. B. wrote a series of Handsome Harry and Ching Ching stories for the Boys Realm in 1902-03. There were some twenty of these yarns—they were 10,000 word

novelettes and were really very fine stories and were well received by the boys. He was employed by the Amalgamated Press (Harmsworth) until he passed away March 5th, 1916, aged 77. A fine, wholesome English gentleman, a real friend to his readers and a man who I am proud to say I once knew and corresponded with.

George will have some thing on Young Folks in the next number.

WHO CAN ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

"Boys and Girls of America," published by A. L. Miller, Chicago. Size 11x15 inches; 16 pages, with No. 11 the name changed to "Boys of America." I have first 13 Nos., how many were issued?

"Bright Days"—5 cents. Published by Bright Days Publishing Co., 21 Ann St., N. Y., for first number only then address changed to 177 William St. Monthly, 32 pages. No. 1 April 1896, with No. 6 changed to weekly, with No. 19 changed to 16 pages. How many numbers were issued?

"The Boys' Holiday"—Weekly, 5cts. Published by The Holiday Publishing Co., 19 Beekman St., N. Y. No. 1 dated 14 Jan. 1890. With No. 40 the name changed to "The Holiday." How many numbers were issued?

"The Half Holiday"—Weekly. A continuation of Army and Navy Weekly. 5 cents. Published by Street & Smith, N. Y. No. 1, 5 Feb. 1898. How many numbers were issued?

Today is Circus Day in —? Charlie Campbell, one of our newest members puts this out, of where all the circus are going to be and the date. Something really interesting and nice to have and know. His latest is a prize, No. 17.

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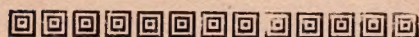
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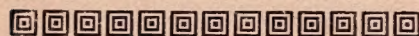
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